

The Pennsylvania State University

The Graduate School

Department of Mechanical Engineering

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO COMPUTER SIMULATION OF THE DYNAMIC  
RESPONSE OF A GAS TURBINE ENGINE**

A Paper in

Mechanical Engineering

by

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## ABSTRACT

Transient performance of gas turbines has a strong bearing on output and component life. For this reason, several articles have been written on the dynamic simulation of gas turbine systems in electrical generation, cogeneration, and marine applications. These models provide a basis for this present work. This paper describes a mathematical and computer model that was developed to investigate the dynamic response of a simple (no reheat, regeneration, or other auxiliary equipment) single-shaft gas turbine system. The model uses design parameters normally incorporated in gas turbine design (e.g. load coefficient, flow coefficient, and deHaller Number) as well as compressor and turbine stage geometry and compressor and turbine material properties. Also incorporated is a combustion chamber model. Other input parameters are included to enable the model to be adaptable to various system sizes and environments.

The results of several trials are displayed, showing how given parameters (e.g. fuel-air ratio, load, and efficiencies) were varied and results were compared. A thermodynamic balance resulted in a 26% system thermal efficiency for the reference state parameters. Also, a start-up procedure similar to an industrial gas turbine system was simulated with this model.

Examination of the results from the trial runs show the computer model to be reliable, given that no control system was incorporated. Because of the approach used, the computer model is easily adaptable to further improvements and a control system.

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## NOMENCLATURE

|           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| B         | Hub-to-Tip Ratio                      |
| cbh       | Compressor Blade Height (m)           |
| cdr       | Compressor Disk Radius (m)            |
| $C_p$     | Specific Heat (J/kg K)                |
| f         | Fuel-to-Air Ratio                     |
| H         | deHaller Number                       |
| h         | Enthalpy (J/kg)                       |
| I         | Moment of Inertia ( $\text{kg m}^2$ ) |
| k         | Ratio of Specific Heats               |
| $\dot{m}$ | Mass Flow Rate (kg/s)                 |
| P         | Pressure (Pa)                         |
| $\dot{P}$ | Power (kW)                            |
| r         | Radius                                |
| R         | Degree of Reaction                    |
| T         | Temperature (K)                       |
| U         | Blade Tip Speed (m/s)                 |
| V         | Velocity (m/s)                        |
| W         | Work (J/kg)                           |

### ***Greek Symbols***

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| $\eta$         | Efficiency                                  |
| $\rho$         | Density of Air ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ )          |
| $\tau$         | Torque ( $\text{N m}$ )                     |
| $\phi$         | Flow Coefficient                            |
| $\psi$         | Load Coefficient                            |
| $\Omega$       | Angular Velocity (rad/sec)                  |
| $\dot{\Omega}$ | Angular Acceleration ( $\text{rad/sec}^2$ ) |

### ***Subscripts***

|     |                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| a   | Axial                             |
| C   | Compressor                        |
| L   | Load                              |
| mix | Combustion mixture (fuel and air) |
| r   | Root                              |
| S   | Stage                             |
| t   | Tip                               |
| T   | Turbine                           |
| 0   | Stagnation                        |
| 1   | Compressor Inlet                  |
| 2   | Compressor Outlet                 |
| 3   | Turbine Inlet                     |
| 4   | Turbine Outlet                    |

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**Romans 10:9 (KJV) That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.**

**Romans 10:13 (KJV) For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

## INTRODUCTION

Transient performance of gas turbines has a strong bearing on output and component life. Issues of thermal fatigue [1] can influence the start-up sequence, since rapid start-ups can impair turbine blade life. As hot gas is generated in the combustion chamber from a cold-start, gradual (as opposed to sudden) heating of the turbine components reduces thermal stresses associated with the start-up. Consequently, the turbine is activated by external power with air inlet guide vanes (IGVs) closed, while the combustion chamber is simply in a heating duty for about ten minutes. Synchronization with the electrical load in the case of power generation also requires accurate speed control under varying load.

In marine propulsion applications, system response in terms of fuel consumption for an oscillatory load is also of concern [2]. Different control strategies were analyzed in this work, namely Proportional Integral and Linear Quadratic Regulator. Both were shown to offer strengths and drawbacks with regards to operational aspects. This work shows the great value that dynamic modeling can offer in terms of system evaluation prior to actual construction. Inevitably, the conclusions depend on the model adopted for the gas turbine, as described in [3]. The model used here for the gas turbine has a definitive empirical slant, since it is largely based on

performance data and time lags acquired from an actual gas turbine test bed. This approach was expanded and refined in [4].

Rather complex systems have been modeled based on similar empirical approaches [5]. In this case, a cogeneration plant consisting of a gas turbine, a boiler, and two steam turbines (high and low pressure), were simulated. The system was approximated by using the performance curves given by manufacturers, and adding necessary time lags based on manufacturer information. Time-dependent equations were integrated with Euler's method. It was concluded that dynamic simulation was a valuable tool for assessing the suitability of controls and safety measures.

A more basic approach to modeling was adopted in [6]. The basic thermodynamic equations for mass and energy balances were used for model formulation, as opposed to manufacturer's curves. Yet, the inertia of rotors and shafts was absent from the equations, which probably explains the need found by the authors to add time lags to this model. The model effectively predicted behavior during load perturbations at full load. A slightly more recent work focused on developing the gas turbine model based on design parameters [7]. Load coefficients and stage efficiencies were employed for this simulation, along with part-load losses extracted from the literature. Again, inertial aspects seem to have been neglected by the author.

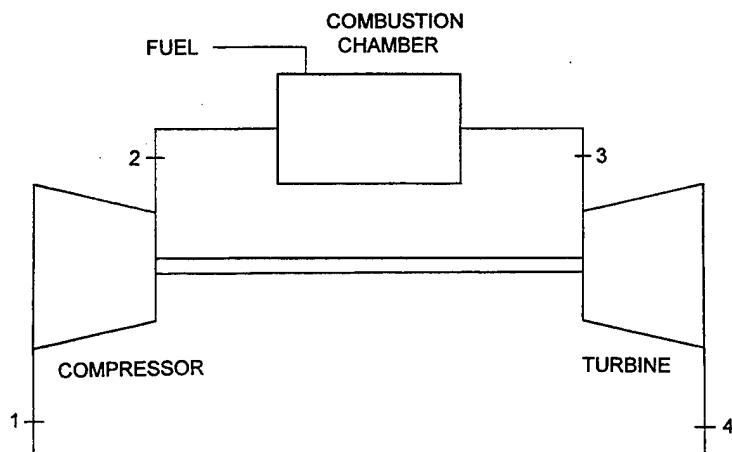
The need to combine basic thermodynamic equations with inertial aspects for generic models was recognized recently. In [8], the transient equations for inlet duct pressure and mass flow rate were formulated. Compressor and combustion chamber conditions were calculated from a transient analysis coupled with polytropic process equations. The thermal inertia of all components was neglected, and performance maps of each component were used to obtain isentropic efficiencies. A dynamic equilibrium equation was used to calculate the acceleration of the turbine. Good comparisons with experimental performance were obtained.

The present work is inserted in this context: whereas most models are semiempirical, in that they rely on time constants and performance maps, serious recent attempts to extend the generality of gas turbine models have been made. Clearly, the flexibility of a model to competently handle a wide variety of turbines is the target. Similar to previous work, the trend of formulating the basic mechanical and thermal equations for each component is followed here. In an extension of previous work, it is attempted wherever possible to include mechanical and thermal design parameters to broaden the reach of the model. Here, the main contribution consists of modeling the compressor stage by stage, and of including thermal and mechanical inertial effects based on first-principles, rather than empirical constants.

It is realized that complex machines cannot always be represented by simple models. Hence, the limitations of this approach are clear, especially at part-load. However, with the advent of computing power and of transient simulation software, it is inefficient to restrict modeling to numerical fitting of performance curves. Based on a literature search and this present work, it is ascertained that models of this type will be used more and more in the future to establish feasibility of design and of control and operating strategies.

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE MATH MODEL

The mathematical model of the turbine system is based upon the three main components as seen in Figure 1 below: compressor, combustion chamber, and turbine. In addition to these main components, there is a component of mass flow rate included in the model.



**Figure 1. Schematic of the three main components: compressor, combustion chamber, and turbine.**

### ***Assumptions***

These assumptions are used in the development of the gas turbine model:

- (1) For the purposes of inertial calculations, compressor and turbine stages can be modeled as disks with rectangular blades attached on the edge of the disk.

- (2) The increase in size of each successive stage of the compressor and the decrease in size of each successive stage of the turbine are approximated by constant factors.
- (3) Rotors in the compressor and turbine are perfectly balanced.
- (4) The compression and expansion processes are adiabatic.
- (5) Air acts as an ideal gas.
- (6) The compressor inlet pressure is equal to the turbine outlet pressure.
- (7) There are 16 compressor stages and 4 turbine stages.
- (8) Stage efficiencies for the compressor and turbine are constant.
- (9) The combustors can be modeled as open-ended cylinders of constant wall thickness.
- (10) The temperature drop across the turbine is divided equally among the four stages. This distribution may be altered as desired.

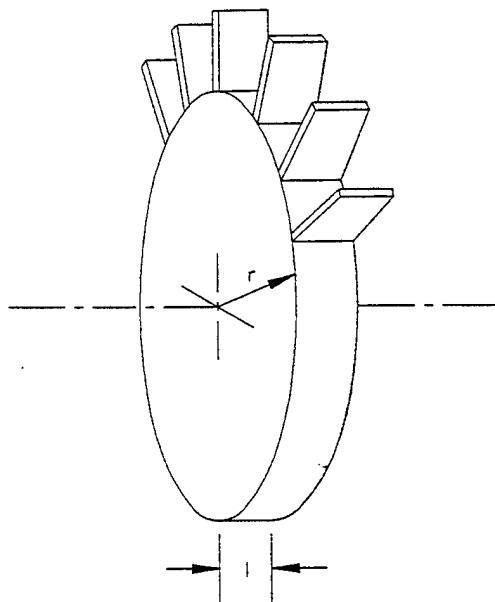
The turbine and compressor, along with the load, are connected to a single shaft, such that the dynamic equation of the shaft is:

$$\tau_T = \tau_C + \tau_L + f_L + (I_C \cdot \dot{\Omega}) + (I_T \cdot \dot{\Omega}) \quad (1)$$

Each component of the model is described below.

### **Compressor and Turbine Stages**

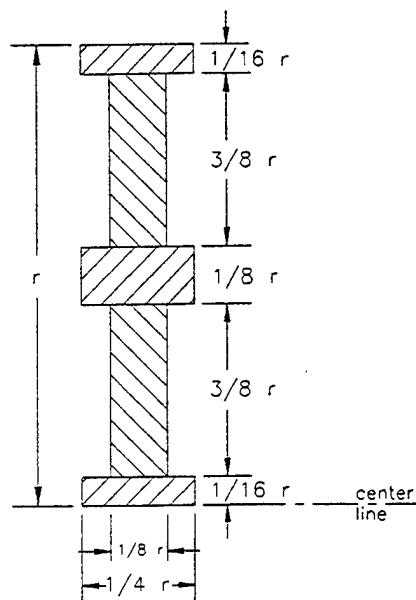
To model the moments of inertia of the rotating masses in the compressor and the turbine, each stage is modeled as a disk with rectangular blades attached as seen in Figure 2a:



**Figure 2a. Model of compressor and turbine stage.**

This moment of inertia model is derived from the model of a rotating disk found in reference [9]. Although the cross-sectional free area is a function of the design flow rate and blockage coefficients, a simpler approach was used to model the radial dimensions. First, a cross-section of the stage radius was assumed, as seen in Figure 2b. The dimensions shown are relative to the

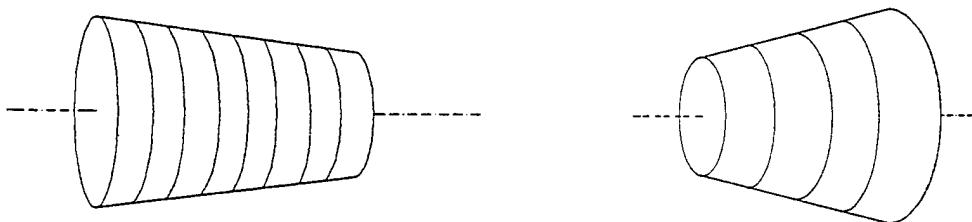
design radius of the stage ( $r$ ). Each of the cross-hatched areas was modeled as a rotating ring, and the section at the center line was modeled as a rotating disk. These sections were added for the total moment of inertia for one stage, and then modeled as a single rotating disk, as previously seen in Figure 2a. The blades were then added into the moment of inertia calculation.



**Figure 2b. Cross-section of a compressor and turbine stage.**

For each successive stage in the compressor (decreasing in size) and each successive stage in the turbine (increasing in size), a constant "decrease factor" (compressor) and "increase factor" (turbine) was used to estimate the

change in size (see Figures 3a and 3b below). The mass of all 16 compressor stages were summed for a total mass, and the same was done for the 4 turbine stages. Using these parameters, the total moment of inertia was calculated for the compressor ( $I_C$ ) and the turbine ( $I_T$ ).



**Figure 3a.** The compressor is modeled as a series of 16 approximately linearly decreasing stage sizes.

**Figure 3b.** The turbine is modeled as a series of 4 approximately linearly increasing stage sizes.

### **Compressor**

The model of this component is based upon the specification of design variables normally employed to characterize a given turbine design. Hence, the compressor model was developed using load coefficient, deHaller Number, flow coefficient, degree of reaction, and stage geometry. Starting with degree of reaction and load coefficient, the equations used are [10]:

$$\psi = \frac{(h_{02} - h_{01})}{U^2} \quad (2)$$

$$R = \frac{C_p(T_2 - T_1)}{h_{02} - h_{01}} \quad (3)$$

and for the blade tip speed, U,

$$U = (\text{radius} + \text{blade\_height}) \cdot \Omega \quad (4)$$

Combining equations (2), (3) and (4), the temperature rise in each compressor stage can be calculated as follows:

$$T_{02S} = T_{01S} + \frac{(cdr + cbh)^2 \cdot \psi \cdot \Omega^2}{\eta_{CS} \cdot C_p} \quad (5)$$

where "cdr" is the compressor disk radius and "cbh" is the compressor blade height.

Successively using equation (5) for each stage results in the compressor exit temperature. The pressure rise in each stage is found by using the following equation:

$$P_{2S} = P_{1S} \cdot \left( \frac{T_{02S}}{T_{01S}} \right)^{\frac{\eta_{cs} \cdot k}{k-1}} \quad (6)$$

The compressor isentropic efficiency,  $\eta_c$ , is found using the relationship between polytropic and isentropic efficiencies [11]:

$$\eta_c = \frac{\left( \frac{P_2}{P_1} \right)^{\frac{(k-1)}{k}} - 1}{\left( \frac{P_2}{P_1} \right)^{\frac{(k-1)}{k \cdot \eta_{cs}}} - 1} \quad (7)$$

The torque required by the compressor is found by again using degree of reaction, deHaller Number, load coefficient, flow coefficient, and stage blade tip speed:

$$R = \frac{h_2 - h_1}{h_{02} - h_{01}} \quad (8)$$

where  $(h_{02} - h_{01})$  is:

$$h_{02} - h_{01} = \left( h_2 + \frac{V_2^2}{2} \right) - \left( h_1 + \frac{V_1^2}{2} \right) \quad (9)$$

Combining equations (8) and (9) and letting

$$h_{02} - h_{01} = \Delta h_0$$

results in

$$R = \frac{\Delta h_0 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot V_1^2 \cdot \left( \frac{V_2^2}{V_1^2} - 1 \right)}{\Delta h_0}$$

Substituting in the deHaller number, H,

$$H = \frac{V_2}{V_1} \quad (10)$$

results in

$$R = 1 + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot V_1^2 \cdot (1 - H^2)}{\Delta h_0} \quad (11)$$

Definitions of Flow coefficient and Load coefficient are:

$$\phi = \frac{V}{U} \quad (12)$$

$$\psi = \frac{\Delta h_0}{U^2} \quad (13)$$

Taking equations (12) and (13), and substituting them into equation (11) results in a relationship between degree of reaction, load coefficient, and flow coefficient:

$$R = 1 + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \phi^2 \cdot (1 - H^2)}{\psi} \quad (14)$$

The difference in stagnation enthalpies is the stage work [10],

$$\Delta h_0 = 2 \cdot U \cdot (V_{u1} - V_{u2}) = W_s \quad (15)$$

and combining this with the load coefficient defined as [10]:

$$\psi = \frac{C_p \cdot \Delta T_0}{2 \cdot U^2} \quad (16)$$

results in

$$\psi = \frac{W_s}{U^2} \quad (17)$$

Using two definitions of power,

$$\dot{P} = \Omega \cdot \tau_s \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{P} = \dot{m} \cdot W_s$$

equating and solving for the stage work,  $W_s$ , results in:

$$W_s = \frac{\Omega \cdot \tau_s}{\dot{m}}$$

Combining this with equation (17),

$$\psi = \frac{\Omega \cdot \tau_s}{U^2 \cdot \dot{m}} \quad (18)$$

Equating equations (16) and (18),

$$\frac{C_p \cdot \Delta T_{0s}}{2 \cdot U^2} = \frac{\Omega \cdot \tau_s}{U^2 \cdot \dot{m}}$$

The stage torque can be found as

$$\tau_s = \frac{m \cdot C_p \cdot (T_{02} - T_{01})_s}{\Omega} \quad (19)$$

Additionally, the compressor efficiency must be taken into account. Recalling the load coefficient, equation (13),

$$\psi = \frac{\Delta h_0}{U^2} \quad (\text{ideal})$$

$$\psi = \frac{\Delta h_0 \cdot \eta_c}{U^2} \quad (\text{actual})$$

Using this efficiency, and the fact that the temperature differences are summed across all the stages, the total compressor torque can be calculated as follows:

$$\tau_c = \frac{\dot{m} \cdot C_p \cdot (T_{02} - T_{01})}{\Omega \cdot \eta_c} \quad (20)$$

### **Turbine**

The torque imparted from the fluid onto the turbine is developed starting with the work of an individual stage of the turbine:

$$W_s = C_{pmix} \cdot (T_3 - T_4)_s \quad (21)$$

Substituting this into the load coefficient definition [10]:

$$\psi = -\left(\frac{2 \cdot W_s}{U^2}\right) \quad (22)$$

and from equation (4),

$$U = (tdr + tbh) \cdot \Omega \quad (23)$$

where "tdr" is the turbine disk radius and "tbh" is the turbine blade height.

Substituting equation (23) into equation (22),

$$\psi = -\frac{2 \cdot W_s}{(tdr + tbh)^2 \cdot \Omega^2} \quad (24)$$

Again using the definitions of power,

$$\dot{P} = \Omega \cdot \tau_s \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{P} = \dot{m} \cdot W_s$$

and solving for  $\tau_s$ :

$$\tau_s = \frac{W_s \cdot \dot{m}}{\Omega}$$

Using the fact that the mass flow rate through the turbine is the mass flow rate of air plus the mass flow rate of fuel, so the stage torque becomes

$$\tau_s = \frac{W_s \cdot (1 + f) \cdot \dot{m}}{\Omega} \quad (25)$$

The turbine efficiency is factored into the above expression as follows:

$$\psi = \frac{\Delta h_0}{U^2} \quad (\text{ideal})$$

$$\psi = \frac{\Delta h_0}{U^2 \cdot \eta_T} \quad (\text{actual})$$

Where the turbine efficiency is found using the relationship between polytropic and isentropic efficiencies [11]:

$$\eta_T = \frac{1 - \left(\frac{P_4}{P_3}\right)^{\frac{(k-1) \cdot \eta_{TS}}{k}}}{1 - \left(\frac{P_4}{P_3}\right)^{\frac{(k-1)}{k}}} \quad (26)$$

In addition, the turbine outlet temperature is calculated and knowing the ambient pressure and turbine inlet temperature as follows:

$$T_4 = T_3 \cdot \left( \frac{P_4}{P_3} \right)^{\frac{(k-1) \cdot \eta_T}{k}} \quad (27)$$

Substituting equation (21) into equation (25) and incorporating the efficiency results in the turbine torque equation:

$$\tau_T = \frac{\dot{m} \cdot (1 + f) \cdot C_{P_{\text{mix}}} \cdot (T_3 - T_4) \cdot \eta_T}{\Omega} \quad (28)$$

The load coefficient of the turbine is calculated using the temperature drop across the turbine as a parameter:

$$\Delta T_s = \frac{T_3 - T_4}{4} \quad (29)$$

$$\Psi_T = \frac{C_p(\Delta T_s)}{2 \cdot (tdr + tbh)^2 \cdot \Omega^2 \cdot \eta_T} \quad (30)$$

### **Mass Flow Rate**

An equation for mass flow rate through the compressor is given by [11]:

$$\dot{m} = \rho \cdot A \cdot V = \rho \cdot \pi \cdot r_t^2 \cdot \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{r_f}{r_t} \right)^2 \right] \cdot V_a \quad (31)$$

Making the following substitutions into equation (31)

$$r_t = cdr + cbh$$

$$B = \frac{r_f}{r_t}$$

$$V_a = \phi \cdot \Omega$$

the mass flow rate can be calculated as follows:

$$\dot{m} = \rho \cdot \pi \cdot (cdr + cbh)^2 \cdot (1 - B^2) \cdot \phi \cdot \Omega \quad (32)$$

where the density is calculated using the ideal gas law.

### **Combustion Chamber**

The model for the combustion chamber is developed using the thermal mass of the chamber itself, the thermal mass of the fuel-air mixture, and the thermal mass of the first stage of the turbine. A control volume analysis of the combustion chamber reveals the following differential equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\dot{m}_2\right) \cdot [C_p \cdot T_{02}] + \left(\dot{m}_f\right) \cdot (\text{LHV}) \\ = \left(\dot{m}_3\right) \cdot [C_p \cdot T_{03}] + (mC_p) \cdot \dot{T}_{03} \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

where  $mC_p$  is the thermal mass of the system, which is modeled as follows:

$$mC_p = [\rho \cdot C_p \cdot Vol]_{can} + [\rho \cdot C_p \cdot Vol]_{fuel-air} + [\rho \cdot C_p \cdot Vol]_{first \text{ turbine} \text{ stage}} \quad (34)$$

The pressure drop across the combustion chamber is calculated by:

$$P_3 = P_1 + (1 - \beta) \cdot (P_2 - P_1) \quad (35)$$

where “ $\beta$ ” is the fractional pressure drop across the combustion chamber.

The complete mathematical model is comprised of equation (1) as the basic equation, using equation (20) for  $\tau_C$ , equation (28) for  $\tau_T$ , calculated values for  $I_C$  and  $I_T$ , and user-input load and friction torques. The independent variable in these equations is time (t). The remaining equations in the mathematical model are:

- mass flow rate .....(32)
- compressor outlet temperature .....(5)
- compressor outlet pressure.....(6)
- compressor isentropic efficiency .....(7)
- turbine isentropic efficiency .....(26)
- turbine outlet temperature.....(27)
- turbine load coefficient.....(30)
- turbine inlet temperature ..... (33) and (34)
- combustion chamber pressure drop.....(35)

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPUTER MODEL

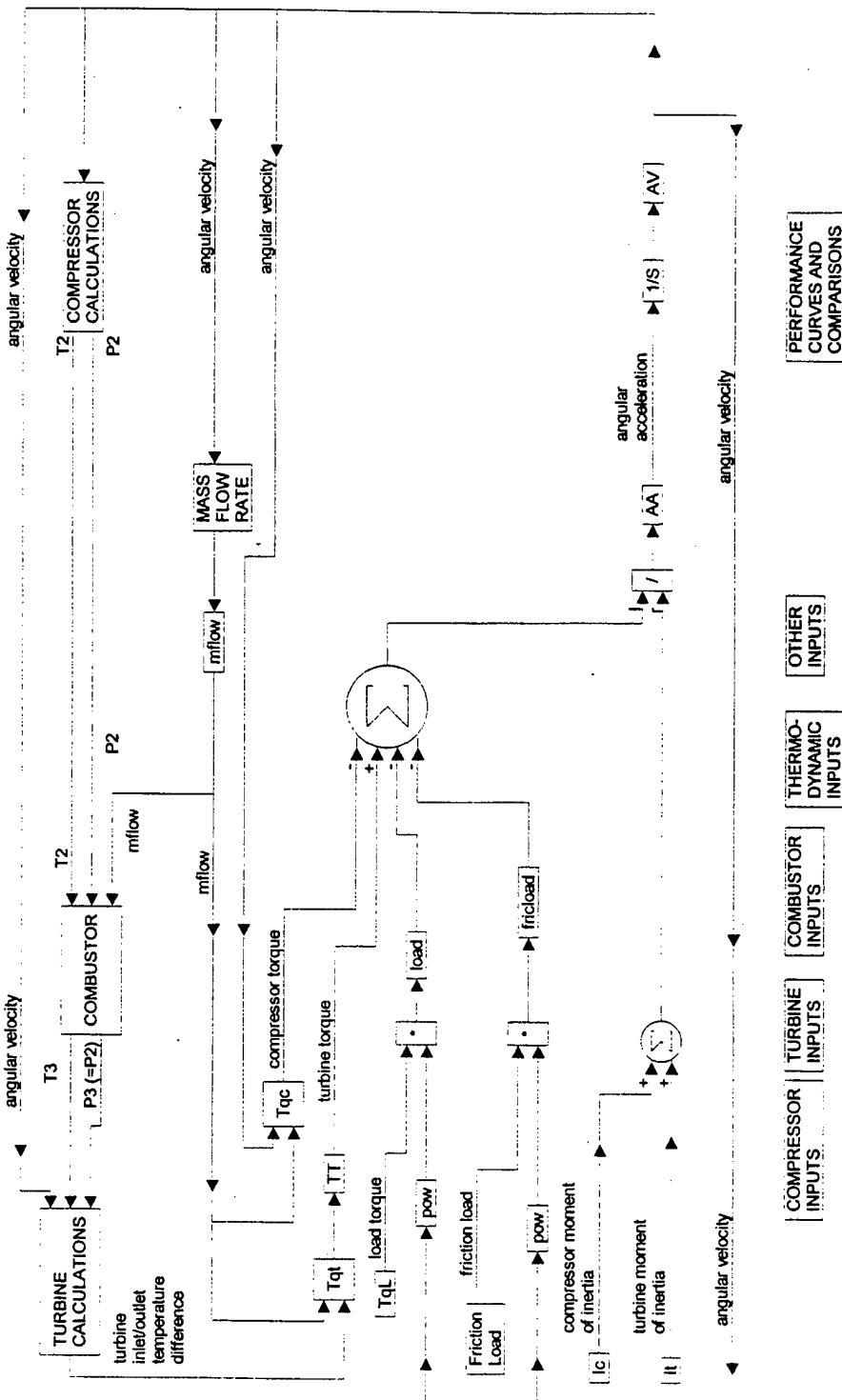
Similar work has been done in simulating gas turbine systems. References [3] and [4] describe a linear model, while [8] describes a non-linear model similar to this paper. However, this model provides inputs for compressor and turbine stage geometry and design parameters such as  $B$  (hub-to-tip ratio),  $\psi$  (load coefficient), and  $\phi$  (flow coefficient). Additionally, this program integrates a combustion chamber model. Several other inputs are required to run the model, including ambient conditions, compressor and turbine efficiencies, and compressor and turbine material properties. These input parameters enable this model to be adapted to a wide variety of gas turbine systems and environments. It is important to note that this model does not incorporate a control system as in [2] and [12]. However, the model is easily adaptable to such a system.

The software package VisSim ® was chosen for this model because it provides “a visual environment for developing continuous, discrete, multirate, and hybrid system models and performing dynamic simulations [13].” There are several other special features about VisSim ® outlined in [13] that make this a superb platform. The program itself is called “gtsim1.vsm” created by the author.

Figure 4 is the "top level" of gtsim1.vsm which shows the basic logic and interconnections of the previously discussed mathematical model. The program incorporates equation (1) as the basic equation, using equation (20) for  $\tau_C$ , equation (28) for  $\tau_T$ , calculated values for  $I_C$  and  $I_T$ , and input load and friction torques. The load and friction torques are computed as constant factors multiplied by the square of the angular velocity [ $\text{sec}^{-1}$ ]<sup>2</sup>.

Additionally, gtsim1.vsm uses the following equations for the associated parameters:

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| mass flow rate .....                   | (32)          |
| compressor outlet temperature .....    | (5)           |
| compressor outlet pressure.....        | (6)           |
| compressor isentropic efficiency ..... | (7)           |
| turbine isentropic efficiency .....    | (26)          |
| turbine outlet temperature.....        | (27)          |
| turbine load coefficient.....          | (30)          |
| turbine inlet temperature .....        | (33) and (34) |
| combustion chamber pressure drop.....  | (35)          |



**Figure 4.** Top level of gtsim1.vsm, showing the basic logic of the program. Arrowheads indicate the direction of “signals” being processed.

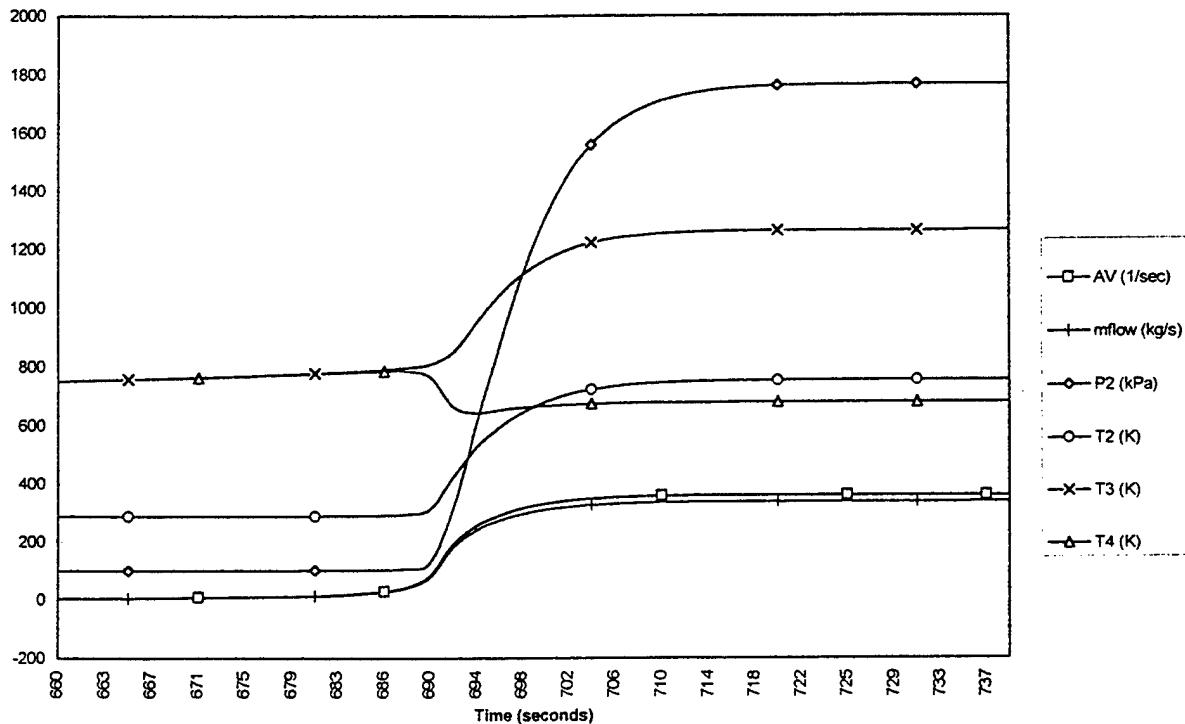
## RESULTS

To demonstrate the versatility of this model, several parameters were varied independently. In each case, all variables were held to their reference state (Appendix A) except the variable under discussion.

### ***Reference State Run***

Figure 5 shows the adopted baseline run. This run is based on a start-up from “cold” conditions, at constant fuel/air ratio, with a frictional load proportional to the square of the rotational velocity. Note that in this plot, the angular velocity is left in units of [ $s^{-1}$ ] in order to clearly fit into the plot scale. The model allows an understanding of the variables in the uncontrolled start-up scenario. As long as the turbine produces no work,  $T_3$  (peak cycle temperature) and  $T_4$  (discharge temperature) are quite close. The compressor discharge pressure increases gradually with time. The air-breathing nature of this turbomachine is clearly reflected here: as soon as the speed increases and the air mass flow ramps up, compressor pressure and peak temperature start to increase sharply. As both  $T_3$  and  $P_2$  increase toward the design value, the turbine power output also increases.

Congruently,  $T_4$  decreases, and the mass flow rate rapidly increases towards its design value. At steady-state conditions, the turbine develops 56.6 MW to drive the load.



**Figure 5. Response of turbine to baseline conditions (fuel/air ratio = 0.013, standard atmospheric conditions, and friction load and shaft load proportional to angular velocity squared). Start-up is from "cold" conditions at constant fuel/air ratio with frictional load. Inlet guide vanes (IGVs) are completely open.**

### ***Energy Balance***

A control-volume energy balance was performed on each component of the model to ensure realistic parameters were passed between components and realistic output power values were obtained. Table 1 below gives values for this analysis. For this system at the adopted baseline parameters (Appendix A), the overall thermal efficiency was found to be 26%.

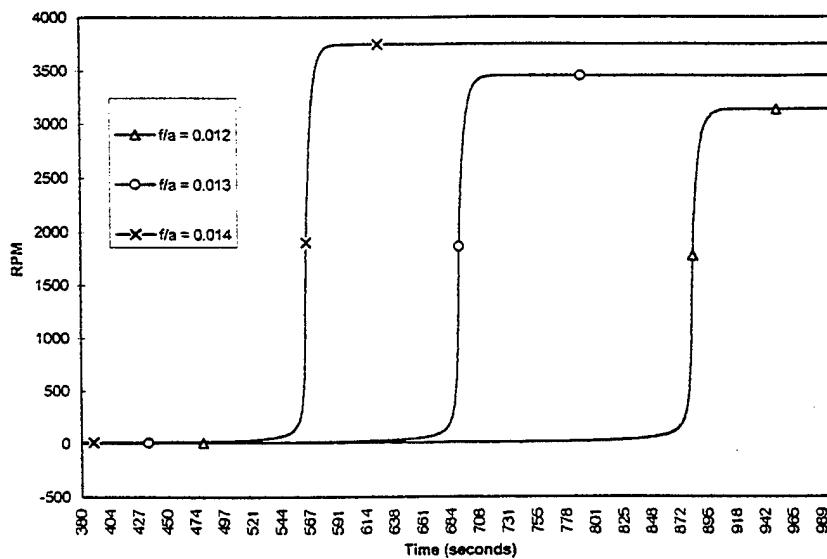
| Component    | Power Out<br>(MW) | Component    | Power In<br>(MW) |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Compressor   | 158.8             | Compressor   | 158.8            |
| Friction     | 5.19              | Air          | 98.37            |
| Exhaust      | 256.8             | Fuel         | 220.2            |
| Load         | 56.58             |              |                  |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>477.7</b>      | <b>Total</b> | <b>477.7</b>     |

**Table 1. Thermodynamic balance of the adopted baseline run.**

### **Start-Up Runs**

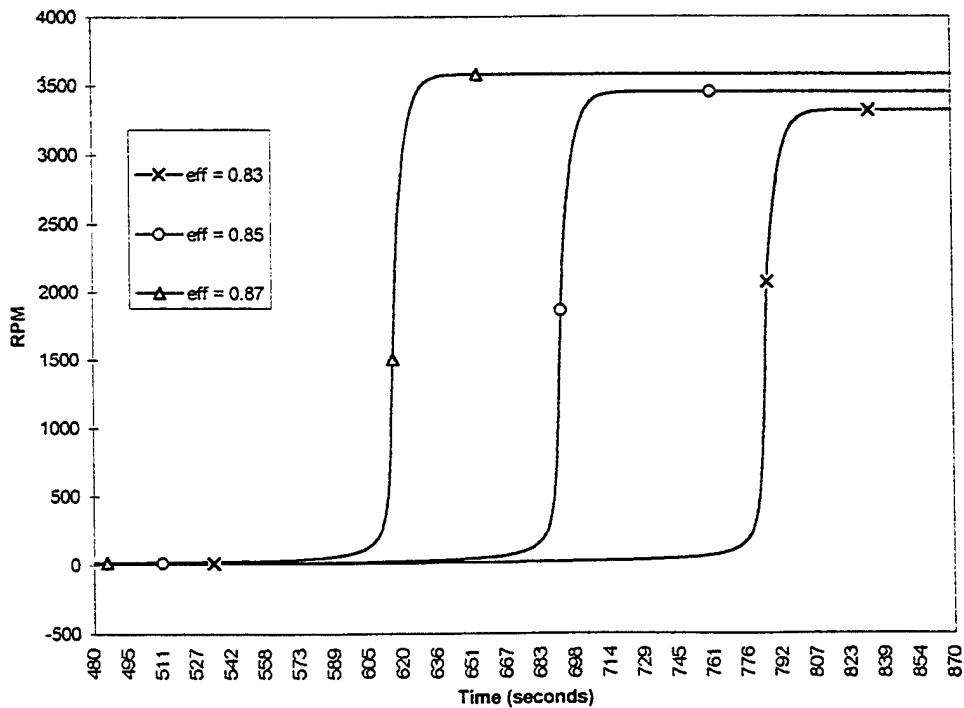
In the following figures and tables, a given parameter was varied and the system allowed to start up from initial conditions. The resulting steady-state speed and time to reach the steady-state speed for each case is shown.

In Figure 6, the fuel-air ratio (held constant from turbine start-up to steady-state) was varied with the same start-up rotational velocity of 30 RPM. Up to approximately 500 seconds, the speed is the same for all three cases ( $f/a = 0.012$ ,  $f/a = 0.013$ , and  $f/a = 0.014$ ). After approximately 500 seconds, it is seen that for greater fuel-to-air ratios, less time is needed to reach higher steady-state speeds.



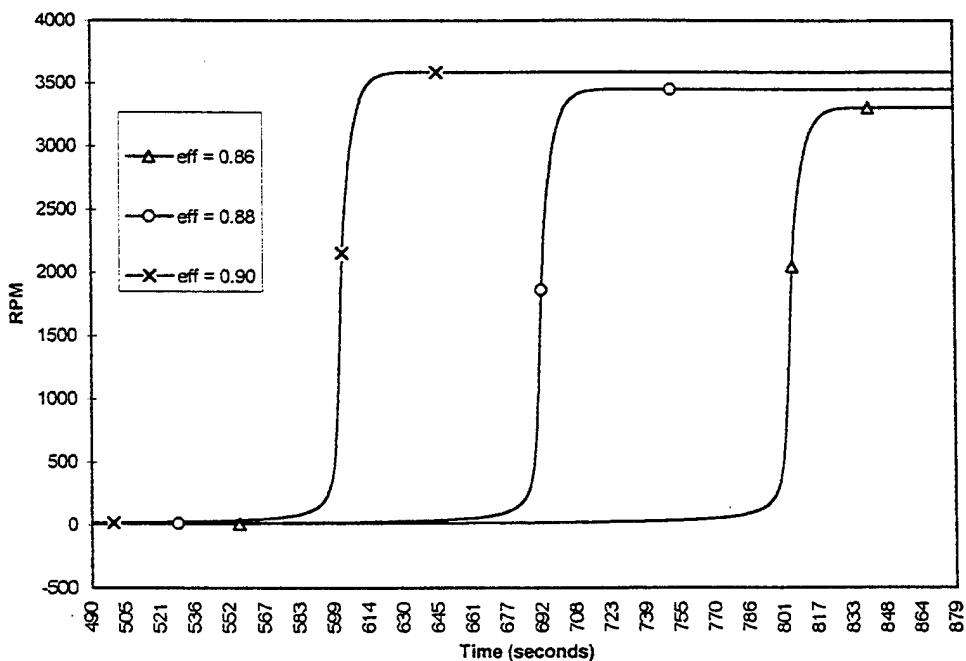
**Figure 6. Influence of fuel to air ratio on response time and final velocity.**

Figure 7 demonstrates the effect of compressor polytropic (small stage) efficiency [11] on steady-state speed. The plot shows that the rotational speed of the system increases as the compressor polytropic efficiency increases. This is due to the ability of a more efficient compressor to impart more work to a given amount of air. The greater work results in increased peak pressure, which in turn increases turbine output.



**Figure 7. Influence of compressor polytropic efficiency on response time and rotational velocity .**

Figure 8 demonstrates the effect of turbine polytropic (small stage) efficiency [11] on steady-state speed. The plot shows that as the turbine polytropic efficiency increases, the rotational speed of the system increases. This is due to the ability of a more efficient turbine to take more work from the combustion gases and use it to drive the compressor, friction load, and shaft load.



**Figure 8. Influence of turbine polytropic efficiency on response time and rotational velocity.**

Tables 2 and 3 below demonstrate the results of varying compressor load coefficient ( $\psi$ ) and compressor blade height, respectively. Here in Table 2, increasing the load coefficient means that more work is communicated per stage to the air. Hence, the peak pressure increases, resulting in a more efficient cycle which leads to greater power output.

| Load Coefficient<br>$\psi$ | Steady-State RPM | Time (sec) to Steady-State RPM |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0.25                       | 3296             | 925                            |
| 0.30                       | 3450             | 725                            |
| 0.35                       | 3536             | 615                            |

**Table 2. The effect of varying compressor load coefficient ( $\psi$ ) (the ratio of stage work to blade kinetic energy). As the load coefficient is increased, the final speed also increases. This is due to the increased amount of work per stage as speed increases.**

In Table 3 below, it is seen that the model responds reasonably as the blade height is increased. The longer blades can sweep more air at a given rotational velocity, resulting in increased power output.

| Compressor<br>Blade Height<br>(m) | Steady-State<br>RPM | Time (sec) to<br>Steady-State<br>RPM |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 0.39                              | 3256                | 950                                  |
| 0.41                              | 3450                | 725                                  |
| 0.43                              | 3629                | 575                                  |

Table 3. The effect of varying compressor blade height. As the blade height is increased, there is more "swept" area through which more mass can flow during a revolution of the compressor stage. The direct result is that for more mass flow, more power, and hence, greater steady-state speed.

### ***Variations During Steady-State Operation***

For these runs, the model was allowed to ramp-up to its reference steady-state conditions from a "cold" start. The amount of time taken to get to these reference conditions was approximately 725 seconds. From the steady-state conditions, certain parameters were varied as described below and results compared.

Figure 9 shows the effect of load changes during steady-state operation of the gas turbine. "Load - Decreased" indicates that the constant load factor (the factor multiplied by the square of the angular velocity to obtain the actual load) was instantaneously reduced from 1.2 to 1.0. "Load - constant" indicates no change in the load, and "Load - Increased" indicates that the constant factor was instantaneously increased from 1.2 to 1.4. The load was decreased and increased at different times for clarity. The results are as expected: an increased load results in lower rotational speed and a decreased load results in higher rotational speed.

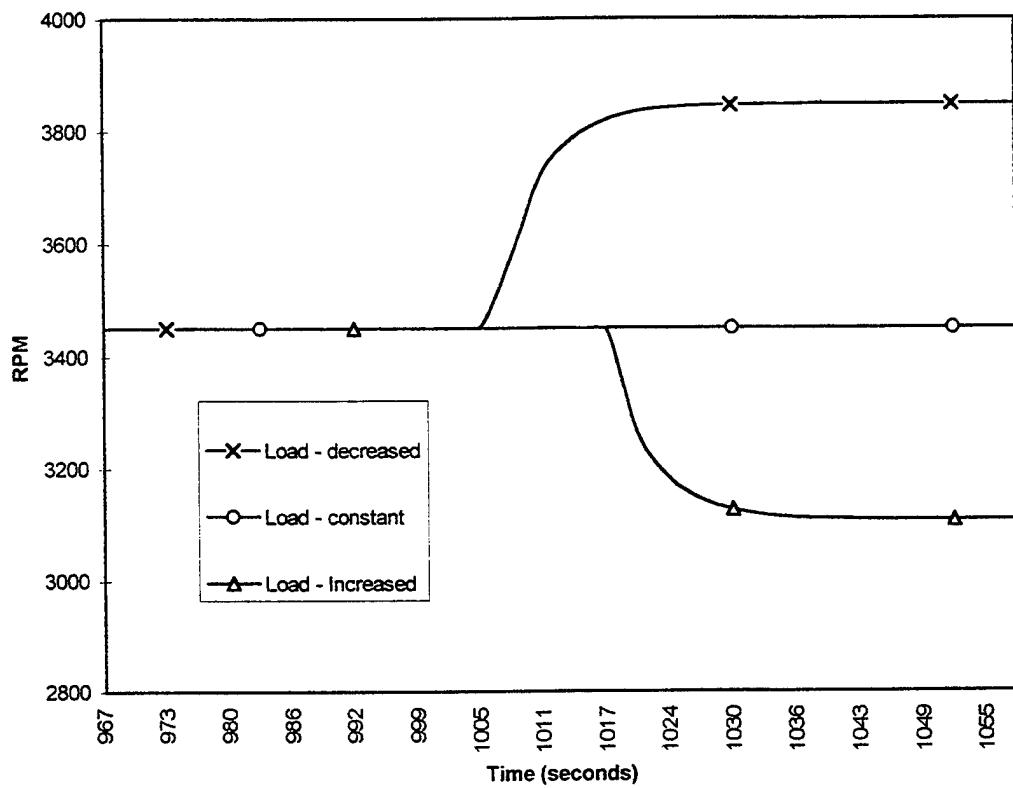


Figure 9. Influence of changes in load during steady-state operations.

Figure 10 is similar to Figure 9, except that the fuel-air ratio instead of the load is changed during steady-state operations. In Figure 10, "f/a decreased" indicates that the fuel-air ratio was decreased from 0.013 to 0.012, "f/a constant" indicates no change, and "f/a increased" indicates that the fuel-air ratio was increased from 0.013 to 0.014. Again, the parameter (fuel-air ratio) was decreased and increased at slightly different times for clarity. The results are again as expected: increased fuel-air ratio results in higher rotational speed and a decreased fuel-air ratio results in lower rotational speed.

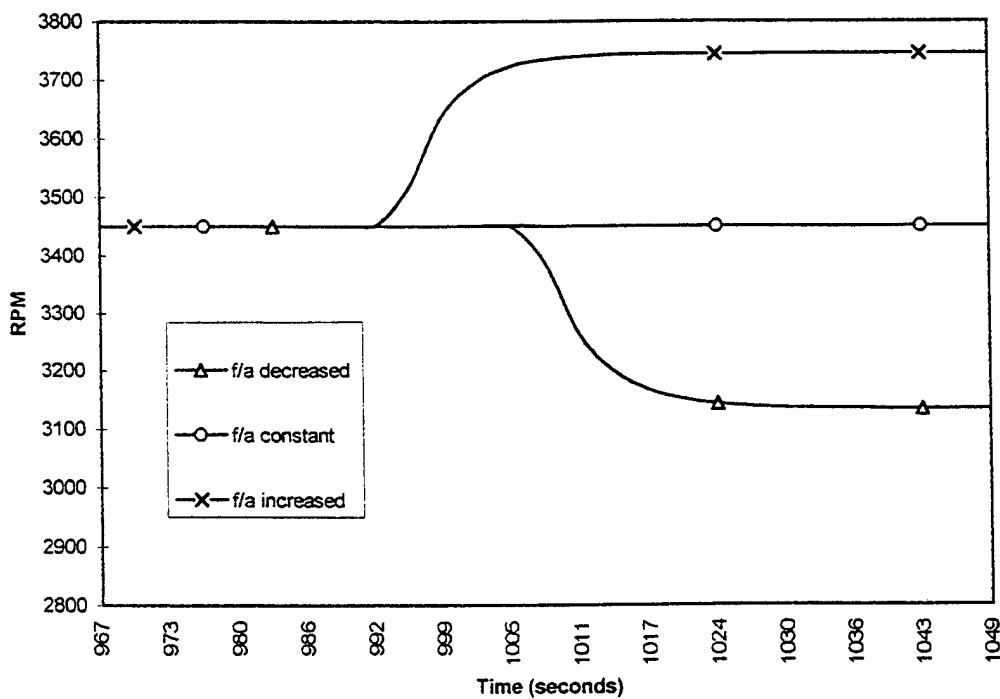
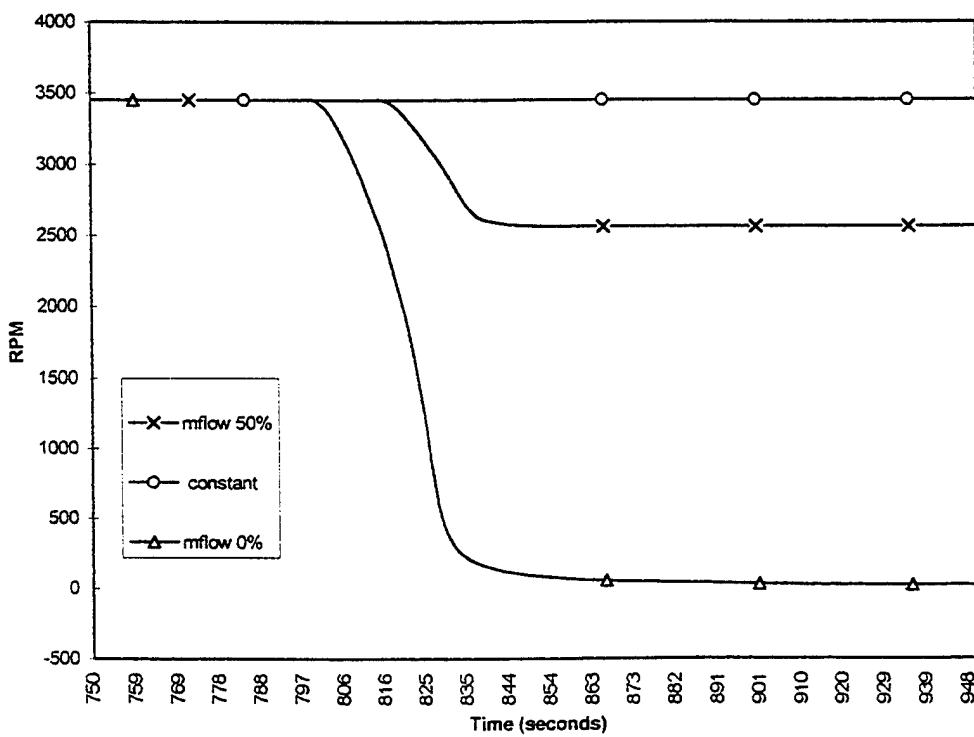


Figure 10. Influence of changes in fuel-air ratio during steady-state operations.

Figure 11 shows the effect of closing the air inlet guide vanes (IGVs) to the compressor. At steady-state conditions, the IGVs are 100% open, allowing the system to ramp-up to its reference mass flow rate (338.7 kg/s). In Figure 11, the "constant" line shows the IGVs remaining at 100% open. The other two lines represent, as noted, IGVs closed to 50% and completely closed (0%). The plot shows that the effect of closing the IGVs is reduced mass flow through the compressor, hence, less power output of the system.

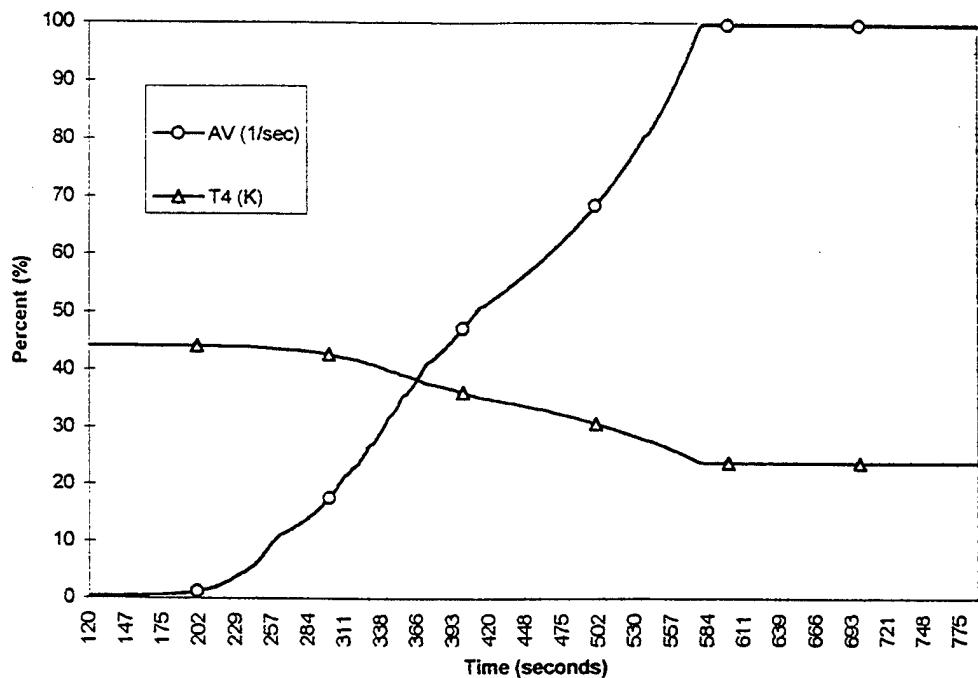


**Figure 11. Influence of changes in mass flow (closing inlet guide vanes) during steady-state operations**

### ***Start-Up Routine***

Start-up procedures of an actual industrial gas turbine system are given in [12]. These procedures are facilitated using an automatic control system and an external “start-up” device such as a diesel engine or an electric motor. Despite the lack of a control system, an investigation was done on gtsim1.vsm to see if these start-up procedures could be simulated.

To facilitate this test, a “start-up” engine was simulated by changing the sign of the load term in equation (1), making it negative. The mass flow rate and fuel input were set to zero. Using a VisSim ® “slider” block, the load was manually varied from a more negative value to a less negative value, allowing the system to come to 100% of design (reference state) rotational speed. Figure 12 was generated from this run:



**Figure 12.** Trial run of start-up procedures given in reference [12].

The plot of  $T_4$  does not match reference [12] due to the lack of fuel input during this run. In reference [12], there was fuel input, giving the system outlet temperate higher values than in Figure 12. This start-up trial of gtsim1.vsm did not exactly simulate reference [12]; however, it does demonstrate that this model can be adapted to an external start-up device and control system to simulate that in reference [12] or others.

## CONCLUSIONS

A mathematical and computer model was developed to investigate the dynamic response of a simple (no reheat, regeneration, or other auxiliary equipment) single-shaft gas turbine system. The model used parameters normally incorporated in gas turbine design as well as compressor and turbine stage geometries and compressor and turbine material properties. Also incorporated was a combustion chamber model. Input parameters were included to enable the model to be adaptable to various system sizes and environments.

The results of several trials were displayed, showing how given parameters (e.g. fuel-air ratio, load, and efficiencies) were varied and results were compared. A thermodynamic balance of the adopted baseline state resulted in a 26% system thermal efficiency. Further, a literature search showed that industrial gas turbines are brought on-line from "cold" conditions via an elaborate start-up procedure. The goal of this procedure is dual: to avoid undue thermal stresses leading to fatigue, and to allow ready synchronization to external loads. The turbine model presented in this paper can respond to similar requirements as imposed manually by the programmer. In an uncontrolled start-up, the turbine does converge quite rapidly to steady-state

conditions. It is noteworthy that the peak temperature increases gradually at first, and more rapidly after the air flow is established. Most of the temperature increase is quite gradual, on the order of 50K/min.

Examination of the results from the trial runs show the computer model, gtsim1.vsm, as a functional gas turbine model, given the fact that no control system was incorporated. For a frictional load and constant fuel/air ratio, the turbine model converges to a steady-state condition. In this condition, the turbine and internal and external loads are in balance. Small departures of load and fuel/air ratio from steady-state values result in small departures in rotational speed. Because of the approach used, the computer model is easily adaptable to further improvements and a control system.

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## APPENDIX A

### Reference State Parameters

#### **Compressor Variables**

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Material Density .....                            | 7000 kg/m <sup>3</sup> |
| Blade Height .....                                | 0.41 m                 |
| Blade Length.....                                 | 0.02 m                 |
| Blade Thickness.....                              | 0.004 m                |
| Disk Radius.....                                  | 0.52 m                 |
| Disk Thickness.....                               | 0.02 m                 |
| Number of Blades .....                            | 62                     |
| Decrease Factor (of successive stage sizes) ..... | 0.98                   |
| Polytropic Efficiency.....                        | 0.85                   |

#### **Turbine Variables**

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Material Density .....                            | 7000 kg/m <sup>3</sup> |
| Material Specific Heat.....                       | 582 J/kgK              |
| Blade Height .....                                | 0.5 m                  |
| Blade Length.....                                 | 0.02 m                 |
| Blade Thickness.....                              | 0.004 m                |
| Disk Radius .....                                 | 0.4 m                  |
| Disk Thickness.....                               | 0.02 m                 |
| Number of Blades .....                            | 87                     |
| Decrease Factor (of successive stage sizes) ..... | 1.1                    |
| Polytropic Efficiency.....                        | 0.89                   |

#### **Combustor Variables**

|                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Combustor Diameter .....              | 0.35 m                 |
| Combustor Length.....                 | 0.7 m                  |
| Number of Combustors .....            | 8                      |
| Combustor Wall Thickness .....        | 0.008 m                |
| Combustor Material Density .....      | 4510 kg/m <sup>3</sup> |
| Combustor Material Specific Heat..... | 582 J/kgK              |
| Pressure Drop .....                   | 2%                     |

### ***Thermodynamic Variables***

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Input Pressure.....                                  | 101325 Pa      |
| Input Temperature.....                               | 289 K          |
| Ratio of Specific Heats for air .....                | 1.4            |
| Ratio of Specific Heats for combustion mixture ..... | 1.33           |
| Universal Gas Constant .....                         | 8314 J/molK    |
| Specific Heat of Air .....                           | 1005 J/kgK     |
| Specific Heat of Combustion Mixture .....            | 1100 J/kgK     |
| Lower Heating Value of Fuel.....                     | 50000000 J/kg  |
| Molecular Weight of Air.....                         | 28.85 kg/kmole |

### ***Other Variables***

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| External Load Factor.....                       | 2.0 kgm <sup>2</sup> |
| Load Coefficient (Compressor) .....             | 0.3                  |
| Flow Coefficient (Compressor and Turbine) ..... | 0.72                 |
| Hub-to-Tip Ratio (Compressor).....              | 0.75                 |
| Friction Load Factor .....                      | 0.2 kgm <sup>2</sup> |

### ***Results of gtsim1.vsm using these reference parameters***

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Fuel-Air Ratio (input).....                     | 0.013               |
| Initial RPM Condition on Integrator Block ..... | 30 RPM              |
| Turbine Inlet Temperature .....                 | 1265 K              |
| Turbine Outlet Temperature.....                 | 680 K               |
| Rotational Velocity .....                       | 3450 RPM            |
| Pressure Ratio .....                            | 17.4                |
| Time to reach steady state.....                 | approx. 725 seconds |
| Mass Flow Rate .....                            | 338.7 kg/s          |
| Power Output .....                              | 56.6 MW             |
| Compressor Isentropic Efficiency.....           | 0.78                |
| Turbine Isentropic Efficiency.....              | 0.93                |

## Appendix B - Survey of Turbomachinery Handbook/1995 [14]

| Company                               | Model     | Shaft Speed (RPM) | Pressure Ratio | Turbine Inlet Temp (K) | Exhaust Temp (K) | Exhaust Flow (kg/s) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Mechanical Drive Turbines</b>      |           |                   |                |                        |                  |                     |
| ABB                                   | GT-35     | 3450              | 12.0           | 1123                   | 649              | 92.0                |
| European                              | RLM2500   | 3600              | 18.4           | 1501                   | 797              | 69.0                |
| European                              | RLM2500+  | 3600              | 21.0           | 1501                   | 785              | 83.0                |
| European                              | RLM5000   | 3600              | 25.4           | 1443                   | 707              | 121.0               |
| Kvaerner                              | LM2500-PE | 3600              | 18.4           | 1086                   | 801              | 68.0                |
| Kvaerner                              | LM6000-PA | 3600              | 29.6           | 1126                   | 735              | 125.7               |
| <b>Electrical Generation Turbines</b> |           |                   |                |                        |                  |                     |
| ABB                                   | GT26      | 3000              | 30.0           | 1508                   | 893              | 543.0               |
| ABB                                   | GT24      | 3600              | 30.0           | 1508                   | 883              | 376.0               |
| ABB                                   | GT13E2    | 3000              | 14.6           | 1373                   | 797              | 532.0               |
| ABB                                   | GT13D     | 3000              | 11.9           | 1263                   | 763              | 394.0               |
| ABB                                   | GT11N2    | 3600              | 15.0           | 1358                   | 797              | 375.0               |
| ABB                                   | GT11N     | 3600              | 13.3           | 1300                   | 778              | 317.0               |
| Ansaldo                               | V84.2     | 3600              | 10.8           | ***                    | 821              | 353.0               |
| Ansaldo                               | V84.3     | 3600              | 16.1           | ***                    | 823              | 433.0               |
| Ansaldo                               | V94.2     | 3000              | 11.0           | ***                    | 816              | 514.0               |
| Ansaldo                               | V94.3     | 3000              | 16.1           | ***                    | 823              | 624.0               |
| Dresser                               | DR-63G    | 3600              | 29.6           | 1104                   | 736              | 177.0               |
| Mitsubishi                            | MW501     | 3600              | 14.0           | ***                    | 794              | 365.0               |
| Mitsubishi                            | MW701     | 3000              | 14.0           | ***                    | 786              | 453.0               |
| Mitsubishi                            | 501F      | 3600              | 14.6           | ***                    | 853              | 437.0               |
| Mitsubishi                            | 701F      | 3000              | 16.0           | ***                    | 826              | 667.0               |
| Mitsubishi                            | 501G      | 3600              | 19.0           | ***                    | 866              | 544.0               |
| MTU                                   | LM2500+   | 3600              | 23.0           | ***                    | 799              | 83.0                |
| MTU                                   | LM2500+   | 3000              | 23.0           | ***                    | 784              | 84.0                |
| Siemens                               | V84.2     | 3600              | 11.0           | ***                    | 817              | 360.0               |
| Siemens                               | V84.3A    | 3600              | 16.6           | ***                    | 835              | 454.0               |
| Siemens                               | V94.2     | 3000              | 11.1           | ***                    | 813              | 519.0               |
| Siemens                               | V94.3A    | 3000              | 16.6           | ***                    | 835              | 540.0               |
| <b>Marine Drive Turbines</b>          |           |                   |                |                        |                  |                     |
| FiatAvio                              | LM2500    | 3600              | 19.2           | 1130                   | 826              | 69.8                |
| GEC                                   | LM2500    | 3600              | 18.0           | ***                    | 813              | 70.0                |
| Kvaerner                              | LM2500    | 3600              | 18.4           | 1086                   | 801              | 68.0                |
| MAN                                   | FT8       | 3600              | 19.8           | ***                    | 1131             | 84.1                |
| MTU                                   | LM2500+   | 3600              | 23.0           | ***                    | 799              | 83.0                |
| Pratt & Wh                            | FT8       | 3600              | 18.7           | ***                    | 716              | 78.1                |
| Rolls Royce                           | WR21      | 3600              | 12.7           | ***                    | 629              | 73.0                |
| Turbo Power                           | FT8       | 3600              | 19.8           | ***                    | 716              | 83.9                |
| <b>Average Values .....</b>           |           | 3429              | 18.1           | 1294                   | 801              | 286.5               |
|                                       |           |                   |                |                        |                  |                     |
|                                       |           | Shaft Speed (RPM) | Pressure Ratio | Turbine Inlet Temp (K) | Exhaust Temp (K) | Exhaust Flow (kg/s) |